

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

1.) Claim Amendments

Claims 1, 2, 4-25, and 27-50 are pending in the application. The Applicant has amended claims 1, 4, 6, 11, 14, 15, 18-21, 23, 24, 27, 29, 34, 37, 38, 41-44, 46, 47, and 49. Claims 3 and 26 have been canceled. Favorable reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

2.) Double Patenting

On Page 3 of the Office Action, the Examiner provisionally rejected claims 1, 3, 8, 12-13, 24, 26, 31, and 35-36 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1, 3, 8 and 10-11 of co-pending and co-owned U.S. Patent Application No. 10/595,014. The Applicant has submitted a Terminal Disclaimer herewith to overcome the provisional obviousness-type double patenting rejection.

3.) Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 101

On Page 3 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 25-50 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 on the asserted basis that those claims are directed to non-statutory subject matter. Independent claims 25 [sic] and 47 were specifically rejected. The Applicant presumes the Examiner meant to refer to independent claim 24 rather than claim 25.

The Applicant has amended independent claim 24 to recite a mobile node, a home AAA server, and intervening AAA network nodes as shown in FIGS. 1 and 7. Therefore, the withdrawal of the § 101 rejection is respectfully requested.

The Applicant has amended independent claim 47 to recite means for transmitting credential-related data to the mobile node and the home agent. This is shown in FIG. 8, items 53-55. Therefore, the withdrawal of the § 101 rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 26-46 [sic] and 48-50 were rejected for depending from a non-statutory base claim. The Applicant presumes the Examiner meant to refer to dependent claims 25-46 rather than claims 26-46. Since base claims 24 and 47 have been amended to recite statutory subject matter, the withdrawal of the rejection with respect to claims 25-46 and 48-50 is respectfully requested.

4.) Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 112

On Page 5 of the Office Action, the Examiner objected to claims 24-50 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. Regarding claims 24 and 42, the Examiner determined there was no structure in the specification relating to the “means for” language.

The Applicant has amended independent claim 24 to recite a mobile node, a home AAA server, and intervening AAA network nodes. These elements are shown in FIGS. 1 and 7. Therefore, the withdrawal of the § 112 rejection is respectfully requested.

The Applicant has amended independent claim 42 to recite that the home AAA server includes means for assigning a home agent to the mobile node; and means for transmitting credential-related data to the mobile node and the home agent. The means for assigning is item 52 in FIG. 8. The means for transmitting is item 55 in FIG. 8. Therefore, the withdrawal of the § 112 rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 25-41 and 43-50 were rejected for depending from rejected base claims 24 and 42. Since base claims 24 and 47 have been amended to overcome the rejection, the withdrawal of the rejection with respect to claims 25-41 and 43-50 is respectfully requested.

5.) Examiner Objections – Claims

On Page 6 of the Office Action, the Examiner objected to claims 11 and 14 due to informalities. The Applicant has corrected the informalities identified by the Examiner. Therefore, the withdrawal of the objection to claims 11 and 14 is respectfully requested.

6.) Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 102(a)

On Page 6 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-10, 12-17, 19-33, 35-40, and 42-50 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being anticipated by Faccin et al. (hereinafter “Faccin”). Claims 3 and 26 have been canceled. The Applicant has amended the remaining claims to better distinguish the claimed invention from Faccin. The Examiner’s consideration of the amended claims is respectfully requested.

Faccin describes the Diameter Mobile IPv6 Application. As seen in the figure on page 3, Diameter uses an AAA Client and an AAAv Server in the visited network to authenticate the mobile node operating in the visited network. (See the notes following the figure). Thus, Faccin does not disclose or suggest a method or system that sends MIPv6-related authentication and authorization information in an authentication protocol in an end-to-end procedure from a mobile node operating in a visited network to an AAA server in a home network of the mobile node, wherein the intervening AAA network nodes forward the MIPv6-related authentication and authorization information unchanged between the mobile node and the home AAA server.

Independent claims 1 and 24 originally recited this procedure as being “transparent to the visited network”, but the Examiner failed to note this recitation. The amended claims make clear what is meant by an end-to-end procedure transparent to the visited network. Since Faccin performs the authentication in the visited network, the procedure is not transparent to the visited network, and the intervening AAA network nodes do not forward the MIPv6-related authentication and authorization information unchanged between the mobile node and the home AAA server. Therefore, the withdrawal of the § 102 rejection and the allowance of amended claims 1 and 24 are respectfully requested.

Claims 2 and 4-23 depend from amended claim 1 and recite further limitations in combination with the novel elements of claim 1. Therefore, the allowance of claims 2 and 4-23 is respectfully requested.

Claims 25 and 27-46 depend from amended claim 24 and recite further limitations in combination with the novel elements of claim 24. Therefore, the allowance of claims 25 and 27-46 is respectfully requested.

Independent claim 47 has been amended to recite an AAA home network server that includes means for assigning a home agent to a mobile node; means for transmitting to the mobile node and the home agent, credential-related data for establishing a security association between the mobile node and the home agent; and means for sending and receiving MIPv6-related authentication and authorization information between the AAA home network server and the mobile node in the visited network in an end-to-end procedure, wherein intermediate AAA network nodes pass the MIPv6-related authentication and authorization information unchanged between the mobile node and the home AAA server. As noted above, the home AAA server in Faccin does not communicate with the mobile node in this manner since the mobile node is authenticated in the visited network. Therefore, the allowance of amended claim 47 is respectfully requested.

Claims 48-50 depend from amended claim 47 and recite further limitations in combination with the novel elements of claim 47. Therefore, the allowance of claims 48-50 is respectfully requested.

7.) Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

On Page 13 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 11, 18, 34, and 41 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Faccin, as applied to claims 1 and 24 above, and further in view of Akhtar, et al. (US 7,079,499). The Applicant respectfully disagrees.

The Examiner has cited Akhtar for disclosing various details of the Applicant's dependent claims. However, like Faccin, Akhtar also fails to disclose or suggest a method or system that sends MIPv6-related authentication and authorization information in an authentication protocol in an end-to-end procedure from a mobile node operating in a visited network to an AAA server in a home network of the mobile node, wherein the intervening AAA network nodes forward the MIPv6-related authentication and authorization information unchanged between the mobile node and the home AAA server. Therefore, all of the claimed limitations are not taught or suggested by the cited combination, and a *prima facie* case of obviousness has not been established as required by MPEP 2143.

Claims 11 and 18 depend from base claim 1, and claims 34 and 41 depend from base claim 24. Therefore, the allowance of claims 11, 18, 34, and 41 is respectfully requested for the reasons discussed above for claims 1 and 24.

8.) Prior Art Not Relied Upon

On Page 15 of the Office Action, the Examiner stated that the prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to the Applicants' disclosure. However, Applicant's review of these references has not revealed any teaching or suggestion of a method or system that sends MIPv6-related authentication and authorization information in an authentication protocol in an end-to-end procedure from a mobile node operating in a visited network to an AAA server in a home network of the mobile node, wherein the intervening AAA network nodes forward the MIPv6-related authentication and authorization information unchanged between the mobile node and the home AAA server.

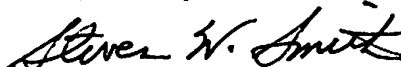
9.) Conclusion

In view of the foregoing remarks, the Applicants believe all of the claims currently pending in the Application to be in condition for allowance. The Applicants, therefore, respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw all rejections and issue a Notice of Allowance for claims 1, 2, 4-25, and 27-50.

The Applicants request a telephonic interview if the Examiner has any questions or requires any additional information that would expedite the prosecution of the Application.

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Respectfully submitted,


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